84. [*Transferred to the 3rd May, 1989.*]

Telephone Connections in Maharashtra

85. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new telephone connections provided in Maharashtra during the year 1988, district-wise and in Bombay City; and

(b) the number of pending applications for telephone connections in Maharashtra as at the end of December, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) The information of Telecom. district-wise is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(b) As on 31-12-88, about 3,62,750 numbers of applications for Telephone connections are pending in Maharashtra.

Statement

Sl. No.	Telecom District	Name of Revenue District covering	No. of new telephone connections provided during the year 1988
1	2	3	4
1	Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar	1151
2	Akola	(i) Akola (ii) Buldana	562
3	Amravati	(i) Amravati (ii) Yeotmal	801
4	Aurangabad	(i) Aurangabad (ii) Jalna	644
5	Bombay	(i) Thane (ii) Raigad	2251
6	Chandrapur	(i) Chandrapur (ii) Gadchiroli (iii) Wardha	718
7	Dhule	Dhule	914
8	Jalgaon	Jalgaon	513
9	Kolhapur	Kolhapur	848
10	Bhandara	Bhandara	220
11	Nasik	Nasik	1225
12	Nanded	(i) Nanded (ii) Parbhani	231
13	Satara	Satara	543
14	Sangli	Sangli	854

1	2	3	4
15	Solapur	Solapur	645
16	Ratnagiri	(i) Ratnagiri (ii) Sindhudurg	540
17	Nagpur	Nagpur	436
18	Latur	(i) Latur (ii) Osmanabad (iii) Beed	747
19	Pune		2461
20	MTNL, Bombay . . .		44048

Countrywide data communication network

86. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the delay in completing Vikram network which was meant for providing countrywide data communication;

(b) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra Electronics Corporation had sought permission from the Central Government for creating such a network between Aurangabad, Pune, Kolhapur, Nagpur and Bombay; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) As the Packet Switched Public Data Network 'Vikram' involves a new technology, and the network would be the first of its kind to be set up in the country.

(b) Keltron sought permission to set up a telecom network including a data network for MIDE, industrial sites in Maharashtra.

(c) The permission has not been granted as the request was for setting up a public telecommunication network, the provision and operation of which is undertaken by the Department of Telecommunications.

Proposal for a gas pipeline from South Basin to Marathwada and Vidarbha areas

87. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposals from the Government of Maharashtra for creating a gas pipeline from the gas fields of South Basin to the backward areas of Marathwada and Vidarbha; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra had suggested that the HBJ Pipeline be taken along the Central railway route or a branch line be constructed to supply gas to fertilizer plants in Vidarbha and other areas in Maharashtra State.

This was considered by Government and not found feasible.